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## CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

| Peg. For RE            |                       |  |  |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|
| Application Number     | 08/748,935            |  |  |
| Filing Date            | November 13, 1996     |  |  |
| First Named Inventor   | Shigeaki IMAI, et al. |  |  |
| Group Art Unit         | 2779                  |  |  |
| Examiner Name          | NGUYEN, Thu V?        |  |  |
| Attorney Docket Number | 44085-032             |  |  |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

| 1. Submission r  | 1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114               |                                      |            |  |  |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|------------|--|--|
| a. Previously submitted  |  |                                      |            |  |  |
| i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on  (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).  |  |                                      |            |  |  |
| ii.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on   |  |                                      |            |  |  |
| iii. 🔲 C   | iii. 🔲 Other   |                                      |            |  |  |
| b. 🗌 🛚 E   | Enclosed   | P.                                   | TO PER AUG |  |  |
| i. 🗌 Amer  | ndment/Reply   | ., 16                                | CEIVED     |  |  |
| ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)  |  |                                      |            |  |  |
| iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)  |  |                                      |            |  |  |
| i. Amendment/Reply ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)  iv. Other  Miscellaneous  MAY 2 2 2003  GROUP 3600   |  |                                      |            |  |  |
|  |  |                                      |            |  |  |
| a. Suspension of action of the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.1.03(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)  |  |                                      |            |  |  |
| b.   |  |                                      |            |  |  |
| 3. Fees The P  | RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § | 1.114 when the RCE is filed.         |            |  |  |
| a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 500417.  |  |                                      |            |  |  |
| i. ⊠ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) <u>\$750.00</u>  |  |                                      |            |  |  |
| ii.  |  |                                      |            |  |  |
| iii. 🗆 🤇   | Other  |                                      |            |  |  |
| b. Check in the amount of \$ enclosed  |  |                                      |            |  |  |
| c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)   |  |                                      |            |  |  |
| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED  |  |                                      |            |  |  |
| Name (Print/Type)  | Edward J. Wise   | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 3- | 4,523      |  |  |
| Signature  | Flaran 184   | Date May 13, 2003                    |            |  |  |
|  |  | NO AS TO MONEYOU                     |            |  |  |
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner For Parents, Box RCE, Washington, D.C. 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: |  |                                      |            |  |  |
| Name(Print/Type)   |  |                                      |            |  |  |
| Signature  |  | Date                                 |            |  |  |
|  |  |                                      |            |  |  |